



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held July 24, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

Executive Officer of the Board's attached recommendation to instruct County Counsel to bring civil action against Maximus, Inc., a registered lobbyist employer, in amount of \$2,000, for failure to file a quarterly lobbying report for the period of January 1, 2007 through March 31, 2007; bar Maximus, Inc., from being granted a County contract, permit, grant, license or franchise, and terminate their registration until such time as they are in compliance with the lobbyist ordinance; and instruct the Executive Officer of the Board to notify Maximus, Inc., and all County Department/ District Heads of the Board's action.

Supervisor Molina made the following statement and substitute recommendation:

"County Code requires all entities doing business with the County either by contract, permit, grant, license or franchise to file quarterly lobbying reports. After five separate attempts through certified correspondence and numerous telephone calls, the Executive Office placed an item on the agenda seeking to bar Maximus, Inc. from receiving future County contracts for failure to file the required lobbying report from January 1, 2007 through March 31, 2007.

"Only when threatened with debarment did Maximus, Inc., respond to the Executive Office, submit the required reports, and pay the required penalty fee of \$2,000. Now that Maximus, Inc., is in compliance, the current County ordinance does not prohibit Maximus, Inc., from seeking additional County contracts. Currently, Maximus, Inc., has a contract with the Department of Public Social Services for over \$23 million and is in the process of negotiating a contract extension with the County.

(Continued on Page 2)

“Maximus, Inc., is not the first company to ignore County lobbying rules and will not likely be the last as long as the penalty for ignoring these rules is only a tiny fraction of the overall contract they have with the County.

“The current ‘no harm, no foul’ punishment against those contractors who fail to comply with the County’s ordinance needs to be strengthened. In order to ensure that companies that do business with the County are more responsive to our rules, the Board should strengthen the current ordinance by creating greater accountability.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Molina, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried (Supervisor Antonovich being absent), the Board took the following actions:

1. Ratified the \$2,000 sanction imposed against Maximus, Inc.;
2. Directed the Chief Executive Officer, along with the Executive Officer of the Board and County Counsel, to develop recommendations that will result in more stringent enforcement of the County’s lobbying ordinance. Options that should be considered include, but are not limited to:
  - A mechanism for progressive discipline, including the permanent barring of future contracts with the County and the cancellation of existing contracts for those companies which demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance; and
  - Higher monetary penalties, including a percentage of the existing contracts with the County, whichever is greater; and
3. Directed the Chief Executive Officer, Executive Officer of the Board and County Counsel to report back with recommendations at the Board meeting of August 21, 2007.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:  
Each Supervisor  
Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel